

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE  
ON  
TORT REFORM**

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

9:30 a.m.

Room 519, House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Tort Reform was called to order by the Chair, Representative Elsenheimer.

Members present: Representatives Elsenheimer, Kahn, Gaffney, Huizenga, Hune, Adamini, Bieda.

Members absent/excused: Representative McConico.

Chairman Elsenheimer invited the following individuals to testify before the committee:

-Thomas W. Cranmer, President of the State Bar of Michigan. Mr. Cranmer introduced the other members of the assembled panel, gave a brief background of each individual, and provided an overview of the purpose of their testimony.

-Jon R. Muth, State Bar of Michigan President in 1994-1995. Mr. Muth gave a broad prospective of tort reform and its role in society.

-Thomas G. Kienbaum, State Bar of Michigan President in 1995-1996. Mr. Kienbaum spoke about various areas of tort reform including statute of limitations, venue, notice and early claim identification, trial procedure, non-economic damages, joint and several liability, and collateral source of damages.

-Dean Googasian, a practicing attorney the area of tort law. Mr. Googasian provided a history of changes in tort law as well as how the law currently exists today.

The panel took questions from committee members.

Representative Gaffney moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 14, 2006. Representative Kahn supported the motion. There being no objection the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Representative Bieda moved to excuse the absence of Representative McConico. Representative Adamini supported the motion. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

There being no further business before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

**Representative Kevin Elsenheimer, Chair**\_\_\_\_\_

Doug Simon, Committee Clerk  
House Tort Reform Committee, (517) 373-0015